

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15

PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-11 SAM-01 DODE-00

SSO-00 /069 W

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O R 021745Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8369

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMCONSUL LYON

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

AMCONSUL NICE

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MPOL

SUBJECT: COMMUNISTS IN NATO GOVERNMENTS ISSUE CONTINUE
TO ATTRACT ATTENTION

REF: PARIS 6098

1. FRENCH MEDIA MONDAY EVENING AND TUESDAY MORNING MADE LITTLE FURTHER MENTION OF THE STORY, EXCEPT FOR COMMUNIST DAILY HUMANITE, WHICH CONTINUED DRUMBEAT OF ATTACKS ON U.S. IMPERIALISM. HUMANITE GAVE HEAVY PLAY TO EDITORIAL COMMENT OF PREVIOUS DAY, INCLUDING PRO-US REMARKS ON RADIO BY JACQUES DOMINATI, SECRETARY GENERAL OF GISCARD'S REPUBLICAN INDEPENDENT PARTY. HUMANITE SAID DOMINATI'S COMMENTS DEMONSTRATE THAT GOF APPROVES OF US INTERFERENCE IN FRENCH INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

2. QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS PRINTED SUMMARY OF ITALIAN COMMUNIST ARTICLE CALLED A REPLY TO GENERAL HAIG, WHICH STATES THAT IF PCI COMES TO POWER, ITALY WILL REMAIN IN ATLANTIC ALLIANCE, BUT TREATY WILL HAVE TO BE RE-EXAMINED. US HAS THE RIGHT TO RE-EXAMINE ITS NATO RELATIONSHIPS IF COMMUNISTS COME TO POWER, ARTICLE SAYS, BUT SO DO COMMUNISTS IN GOVERNMENT.

3. MARCH 2 ISSUE OF LE MONDE POINTS OUT THAT THE U.S. OFFENSIVE AGAINST COMMUNISTS IN NATO GOVERNMENTS STARTED LAST JANUARY, EXCERPTING HEAVILY FROM CRAIG WHITNEY'S ARTICLE IN THE NEW YORK TIMES OF FEBRUARY 6.

4. IN MARSEILLES MAYOR DEFERRE CONTINUES NON-STOP ATTACKS ON U.S. INTERFERENCE IN HIS NEWSPAPERS AND IN TELEVISION STATEMENTS.

5. AFTER MORNING LULL, SUBJECT TOOK ON SECOND WIND AFTERNOON OF MARCH 2 WITH WIRE SERVICES REPORTING THAT AMBASSADOR RUSH HAS POSTPONED VISIT TO MARSEILLES
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SCHEDULED TO BEGIN MARCH FOURTH. EMBASSY ISSUED STORY THIS MORNING INDICATING THAT AMBASSADOR RUSH COULD NOT GO TO MARSEILLES THIS WEEK BECAUSE HE HAS THE FLU. (AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN OUT OF OFFICE SUFFERING FROM A BUG.) THIS REPORT HAS GIVEN THE WIRE SERVICES OPPORTUNITY TO REHASH THE ENTIRE STORY, GOING BACK TO GENERAL HAIG STATEMENTS OF LAST WEEK. IT IS CLEAR FROM QUERIES RECEIVED BY EMBASSY THAT U.S. PRESS WILL BE FILING

EXTENSIVELY ON THIS SUBJECT FOR PUBLICATION IN TUESDAY
EVENING AND WEDNESDAY MORNING EDITIONS.
RUSH

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